

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 13-32, 37 and 38 without prejudice or disclaimer, as shown below in the complete listing of all claims which were, or are, in the application:

1. (Original) An overmolding insert, comprising:

a base having at least one opening in a first surface, said opening being in communication with a second surface opposite said first surface,

at least one hollow projection extending from said first surface of said base, said hollow projection having a first opening in communication with the opening of said first surface and a second opening located at a terminal portion of said hollow projection,

said insert further comprising two opposed side walls, each side wall being joined to said first surface, two opposed end walls being joined to an opposite end of said first surface and extending from one side wall to the other side wall, such that the side walls, the end walls, and the first surface define a partially closed space,

with the proviso that said terminal portion of said hollow projection extends beyond said partially closed space.

2. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, wherein said insert comprises a polymeric material.

3. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, wherein said insert comprises a thermoplastic material.

4. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 3, wherein said thermoplastic material comprises a glass fiber reinforced polymeric material.

5. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1,
wherein said side walls and said end walls each have a terminal segment located opposite to where said side walls and said end walls join to said first surface, and

wherein said terminal segment is capable of being raised to a higher temperature upon being contacted with molten polymer than a remainder of said insert.

6. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, wherein a thickness of said base is the same thickness as a thickness of said terminal segment.

7. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, further comprising at least one abutment extending from said first surface which is effective to reduce a volume of said partially closed space.

8. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, wherein corners formed by said side walls and said base opposite said first surface are either chamfered or rounded.

9. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, further comprising a taper adjacent said second opening of said terminal portion of said hollow projection.

10. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, wherein said hollow projection has a step having a greater perimeter than an outside perimeter of said hollow projection, said step having the same shape as said hollow projection.

11. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, wherein said hollow projection has a cylindrical shape.

12. (Original) The overmolding insert of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of hollow projections which are coplanar and spaced along a longitudinal axis of said base.

Claims 13-32 (Canceled)

33. (Original) A process for manufacturing a heat exchanger manifold, comprising

a) providing an overmolding insert comprising a base having at least one opening in a first surface, said opening being in communication with a second surface opposite said first surface, said overmolding insert further comprising two opposed side walls, each side wall being joined to said first surface, two opposed end walls being joined to an opposite end of said first surface and extending from one side wall to the other side wall, such that the side walls, the end walls and the first surface define a partially closed space;

b) removably inserting a removable projection into said opening in a first surface of said overmolding insert such that the projection extends from said first surface and beyond said partially closed space,

c) fitting an end of a hollow conduit over said removable projection;

- d) molding molten polymeric material over said overmolding insert and said hollow conduit end to form a manifold; and
- e) removing said removable projection from said manifold.

34. (Original) The process of claim 33, wherein said removable projection is removably inserted into said opening, thereby forming a sub-assembly, prior to placing said sub-assembly into a mold.

35. (Original) A process for manufacturing a heat exchanger manifold, comprising

- a) inserting at least one insert of claim 1 into a mold;
- b) fitting at least one end of at least one hollow conduit over at least one hollow projection, and
- c) molding molten polymeric material around said overmolding insert and said hollow conduit to form a manifold.

36. (Original) A process for manufacturing a heat exchanger manifold, comprising

- a) connecting said hollow projection of the overmolding molding insert of claim 1 to an end of a hollow conduit, thereby forming a sub-assembly,
- b) placing said sub-assembly in a mold, and

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c) molding molten polymeric material around said overmolding insert and said hollow conduit.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the original drawings with the drawings attached to the Transmittal of Formal Drawings submitted concurrently herewith.